

# Antimicrobial Stewardship Team

## What Is The Antimicrobial Stewardship Team?

Antimicrobial Stewardship (ASP) is a nation-wide effort to help stop antibiotic misuse and resistance. Resistance happens when antibiotics are prescribed or used incorrectly, resulting in the antibiotic no longer working to fight infections. The ASP team at Gillette includes providers, pharmacists, and nurses.

## Why Is This Medication Prescribed?

Antibiotics are prescribed to help fight bacterial infections. Common areas of infection are: lungs/respiratory system, bladder/urinary tract, digestive system, and at surgical incision sites. Your healthcare team has worked hard to determine which antibiotic works best for the particular infection you have. Antibiotics are used to either prevent infection from happening, or to help a current infection get better.

## Do Antibiotics Work For Viruses?

No, antibiotics do not work on viruses. They only work when there is a bacterial infection. When taken for viral symptoms, the patient will not feel better, and will still be able to spread the virus. This misuse can lead to antibiotic resistance.

## What Can Be Done To Avoid Resistance To Antibiotics

Take medication exactly as prescribed. Do not stop taking the antibiotic when you start to feel better. The infection might not be gone and could come back. Do not take other people's antibiotics. It might not be the correct antibiotic for the illness you have. If antibiotics are not used correctly it could mean that next time you have a bacterial infection and need antibiotics, they might not work. This could lead to being sick for longer periods of time, and needing to take more medication. Fighting antibiotic resistance takes the whole team! Your healthcare team will work with you to avoid antibiotic resistance.

Make An Appointment

[651-290-8707](tel:651-290-8707)

Refer a Patient

[651-325-2200](tel:651-325-2200)

This information is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care providers. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor or others on your health care team.

If you are a Gillette patient with urgent questions or concerns, please contact Telehealth Nursing at [651-229-3890](tel:651-229-3890).